

Connecticut Fatherhood Coalition

Promoting Responsible Fatherhood

Overview

In 1999, Public Act 99-193 *An act Concerning voluntary Paternity Establishment and the John S. Martinez Fatherhood Initiative* was implemented. This is a broad based public private partnership, led by the CT Department of Social Services, to focus on the provision of quality services and system change to improve a father's ability to be responsible for and involved in the lives of their children.

And, father absence takes a toll on government. One conservative estimate is that father absence costs taxpayers \$100 billion yearly (*the One Hundred Billion Dollar Man: The Annual Cost of Father Absence, National Fatherhood Initiative, 2008*).

Initially 6 Connecticut non-profit agencies received funding from DSS to operate fatherhood programs. Later, the State also received a five year federal grant to enhance and expand upon the success of those programs. The federal grant ended in September 2011. **Funding was not included in this budget. \$500,000 is needed to maintain current services at the 6 sites and continue this important work.**

Without this funding, thousands of children and their parents will not receive critically needed services to achieve healthy family relationships and self-sufficiency. Responsible fathers – who play key roles in child development and family economic success- create strong families, and strong families lead to good outcomes for children.

Outcomes

Children are better off when their fathers are actively engaged in their lives.

Families are better off when fathers fulfill their social and financial responsibilities.

Connecticut is better off when policies and programs support responsible fathering.

Certified Member Agencies

These are the agencies that have demonstrated the knowledge, skills and capacity to operate quality and cost effective fatherhood programs as certified by the CT Department of Social Services

Career Resources, Inc.
Bridgeport
Scott Wilderman

Family Strides, Inc.
Torrington
Nichole Laracuenta

Families in Crisis, Inc.
Hartford
Susan Quinlan

New Haven Family Alliance, Inc.
New Haven
Barbara Tinney

Madonna Place, Inc.
Norwich/New London
Nancy Gentes

New Opportunities for Waterbury Inc.
Waterbury
James Gatling

For additional information please contact Susan Quinlan at Families in Crisis, Inc.
860.727.5810 quinlan@familiesincrisis.org

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the Father of three kids who are the best thing that came in my life. The programs we have in the prisons are helpful because they teach me how to be a better parent. The things I did know I can do better and the things I didn't know I can respond better. If these programs are removed there will be no way for us to learn and we will keep doing the same things over and over. Being a part of my children's lives is the most important reason for me to get out and stay out of prison. Being here keeps me from doing all the things fathers are supposed to do like go to ball games. This program and others like it help me respond better to my children as a parent the way I should, not showing them but teaching them right from wrong and other good things. By being a better dad I can help them to have a better life, not doing the things I have done and going down the same road I did. Please keep that in mind as you make decisions that affect these programs no doubt that they help, because they do!

Carl McCann

#251826

Carl McCann

To Whom It May Concern,

My Name Is Timothy Thomas Sr And I AM A Inmate/FATHER At CARL ROBINSON. I'm ONE OF THE MANY YOUNG MAN THAT IS LOCKED WHO USES THIS PROGRAM AND THOSE LIKE THIS TO BETTER MYSELF AS A FATHER FIRST OF ALL AND AS A PERSON SECOND. THIS PROGRAM HAS BEEN TEACHING ME THAT THRU ALL THE GOOD I BEEN DOIN AS A PARENT, THERE'S STILL ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT BECAUSE WHAT GOOD AM I TO MY KIDS IN HERE.

THIS PROGRAM AND THOSE LIKE THIS KEEPS MYSELF AN THOSE LIKE ME PREPARE FOR FATHERHOOD AND LIVING A BETTER LIFE ONCE WE GET OUT. WITHOUT ME ATTENDING THIS PROGRAM I WOULDVE PROBABLY BE GOIN HOME WITH THE WRONG INTENTIONS. BUT THIS PROGRAM HAS CHANGE ME FOR THE BETTER AND IS MAKING ME THINK AS A MODEL CITIZEN PLUS FATHER. SO BEFORE I LET YOU/YOU'LL GO CAN YOU PLEASE FIND A WAY TO KEEPING THE POSITIVE PROGRAMS AND MOTIVATION AROUND.

Sincerely Your

MR. Timothy
Thomas

To whom it may concern,

2-20-13

The importance of fatherhood programs in prison for me vital. I have been incarcerated for a little over five years now. I have since gotten a divorce and have been cut-off from my two sons who are now sixteen and fourteen years old. I am currently enrolled in the Inside-Outside Dad program, ran by Families in Crisis. I signed up for this program to re-establish contact with my sons. I feel that my situation requires the professional help and sensitivity that Families in Crisis can offer. Without programs like this I can see many fathers not having the resource to reconnect with their children. That will be such a negative affect on society in both short and long term, as well as the family structure itself. Children need their fathers before, during, and after incarceration. Myself and many others like me are depending on these programs to help keep family values on the priority list. Please don't cut these fatherhood programs from the budget.

Thank you

Michael Workman
Michael Workman

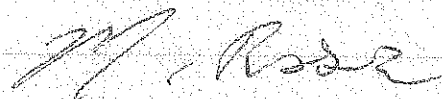
To whom it may concern,

My name is Marcelo Rosa my inmate number is 318679. I'm writing you in concern of the budget I am a father of 3 boys first time ever being incarcerated. I am in the fatherhood program called Inside Outside Dad I always thought I was raising my kids in the correct standers. I only been in this class going on 4 week ~~weeks~~ and I learn they things I ~~was~~ used to tell my boys of how to act or even just telling them they bad boys can actually damage them in the long wrong. This class is very helpfull I belive classes like this that help incarcerated parents better they self as parents and that connect them with they kids shouldn't be on the budget cut. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely yours,

Marcelo Rosa

318679

 M. Rosa

To whom it may concern my name is Angel
I'm ^{incarcerated} ~~in~~ and I'm finding out that the
program that help man like myself connect
with there kids and show us good point
on how to be come better fathers ~~be~~
while we are incarcerated is going to be
over. I have two boys age 6 and 8 yrs
And these program has given me a ^{opportur} ~~opportur~~
to connect with them better because I thought
me ~~being~~ ^{being} carserated I could not be a go
role model or tell them what wright from wr
I understande that there is not enough
money for the state I know that you
can find other thing that can be taken else
where.

Thank you
very much.

Sincerely yours

Angel Martinez
#

Jermaine Burde
387890

2.20

To Whom it may Concern,

I am here writing you this brief letter to talk ab
the budget Crisis & how it is affecting all of our necessary Program
For me personally I am currently incarcerated & the programs being
Shot down will have a huge impact. Mainly the programs concerning
Drug Activity helping towards recovery & fatherhood programs helping
towards becoming a better man for fatherhood. These programs are
important because they're contributing factors into helping men like
me become a better citizen preparing to re-enter the world.
If they were to be ceased then the whole purpose of incarceration
being rehabilitation would be just pointless. Now I know that ei
way something must be done to help relieve the crisis pain b
these programs are vital. For those who actually want to make
a change for the better they are able to receive insightful inform
Please reconsider & rethink towards another plan because us men
who have made mistakes in the past need help to be re-entered
into society. This isn't an easy process due to the fact that other
important organizations will be taking a hit, but programs like the
"fatherhood" initiative is allowing men across the board to become
fathers for the future. A child's home is where it all begins so
please with consideration to this matter think deeply about the
progressive future. Fathers make a difference & I know many of
you in the legislature are fathers. Thank you for your time
Consider the future.

Peace, & Blessings (Jermaine B)

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I UNDERSTAND THAT MANY PROGRAMS LIKE "INSIDE-OUT DAD" ARE BEING CUT DUE TO THE BUDGET CUTS. I'VE ONLY BEEN IN THIS CLASS FOR A FEW WEEKS BUT ALREADY I HAVE LEARNED THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DISCIPLINE & PUNISHMENT. TO DISCIPLINE IS TO TEACH TO PUNISH WITHOUT TEACHING LEADS TO SHAME & DOING WHATEVER IT TAKES TO NOT GET CAUGHT. PRISON WITHOUT THE PROGRAMS TO TEACH US ABOUT WHY OUR PAST BEHAVIOR IS HURTFUL TO OURSELVES & OTHERS IS SIMPLE PUNISHMENT. TEACHING & REHABILITATION SHOULD BE THE GOAL. PROGRAMS BETTER INSURE THAT GOAL OF BEING ACCOMPLISHED. PRISON WITHOUT ADDICTION SERVICES, PARENTING, & OTHER PROGRAMS THAT ENCOURAGE PEELING BACK THE LAYERS IN ONE'S LIFE TO FIND THE UNDERLYING ISSUES IS A WASTE OF OUR TIME & YOUR MONEY. IN THE LONG RUN YOU GET MORE BANG FOR YOUR BUCK BY KEEPING THE PROGRAMS. IF FIXING THINGS IS TRULY YOUR GOAL.

To who it may Concern

I am in a parent class and so far I learned so much about being a good father. The things I learned I never even knew about. I understand that you want to take these programs out that would be a big mistake because there are guys here that want to be a good father and want to learn about them self better then self. So when they get out they could be a good Dad. So please if you could rethink about taking this program out and the others that really mean a lot to the people that want to learn instead of sending them back out there with not knowing any thing please keep these programs in so the people that really want the help get it. Your not only hurt us your also hurting the kid's vitamins who want there Father or mother to be better in life please rethink about it.

Thank you very much

2/20/13

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing in regards to the current fiscal situation that involves cuts to the funding of institutional programs.

I understand the current fiscal crisis, and I am fully aware we all must compromise, and tighten our belts, but cutting back on these vital, and essential programs will do not more than add more debt, and mounting cost in the long run.

These programs serve not just the inmates, but the entire community as well. These programs provide inmates with the skills needed to become great fathers, and better citizens.

I have ~~benefited~~ gained some valuable, and priceless tools from my current program thus far, and we're only mid-way - I look forward to what the completion I will bring.

Furthermore, cutting such programs make prison just a "storage warehouse", and doesn't allow inmates any chance for rehabilitation!

Sincerely, ANTHONY LESKEY

To whom it may concern

I am currently serving a 3 yr sentence I am currently in a program called inside outside. Dad I feel this program is helping me reconnect with my family and children in more way then I can explain I was always taught Children should be seen not heard. I realize now if I dont listen now at a young age to mold them into respectful members of society and be there for my children and family they will slip through the cracks and end up where I am at this point of my life. this is just one class I am taking since being in jail I also took a program call Transitions Reentry which help inmates like me reenter back into society with help and a plan on how to stay out of Jail. I also too a class for Conn Dept of Labor SOB center which helped me with Resume, Job finding cover letters all the Tools I need to maintain a happy and productive life I feel instead of taking away from programs that are here to help inmates be productive in the community the should be more funding for such program to build strong family ties in our communitys why Dont all you government people Take pay cuts or donate one Days pay To help fund the community's that elected you

into office to support education in the Department
of Correction instead of warehousing us give
us the programs we need. that help us out
with our problems please don't cut the programs
we need all the help we can get just a
reminder They can't hold us all for ever.
eventually some of us are coming home.
Changed ~~or~~ from programs on the same way
of thinking that got us in here the first place
to the same Community that you live in

Stanley Fabrycki 183

East Hartford CT Currently

Q6108

Carl Robinson CI

Inmate # 183053

Feel free to write.

2-20-2013

Governor: Daniel Malloy

State of Connecticut

Hartford Connecticut, State Legislative Office.

Mr Malloy,

My name is Otis Clarence Watson III. I am currently a Inmate at the Carlos M. Robinson Correctional Facility in Enfield Connecticut. This purpose for me writing this letter to you is to address an topic that's been discussed, the topic in some detail targets programs being cut because of Connecticut's budget. These programs being targeted will be cut at the start of the new fiscal year beginning July 2013. At the present time I am in one of the programs called Inside Outside Man it's an awesome program the facilitators and the curriculum have gave me insight in my parenting skills that build understanding and the knowledge that is needed for myself being that I've been away from my children for so long. Some sons who might not get the chance to take this class and opportunity from my point of view will be missed out on a big piece of rehabilitation. It will be a very big loss if this program will really be cut because of the budget please take in consideration that this program Inside Outside Man is key to rehabilitation in inmates families lives.

Sincerely Yours

Otis C. Watson
Otis C. Watson III